



Cal/EPA ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT AND TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM Report May 2005

The Environmental Enforcement and Training Act (Penal Code section 14300) became effective January 1, 2003. The Act created the Environmental Enforcement and Training Account under the authority of the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA). The purpose of the Account is to provide additional funding for environmental training and enforcement through donations from enforcement cases.

Funding for the account comes from money designated for such use in enforcement cases. These contributions are often referred to as Supplemental Environmental Projects or "SEPs". Private contributions may also be received. No general fund money is used in this program. For more information on SEPs, see Cal/EPA's website at calepa.ca.gov/Enforcement/Policy.

By statute, funds in the Environmental Enforcement and Training Account are allocated:

- 25% to the Environmental Circuit Prosecutor Project
- 25% to the California District Attorneys Association to provide enforcement training for environmental prosecutors, investigators and regulators
- 25% (capped at \$100,000) to the Peace Officers Standards Training Commission for peace officer training targeted at the detection and investigation of environmental crimes
- The remainder distributed as discretionary grants by Cal/EPA to provide training and enforcement grants.

The actual amount of grant funding available is dependent on the amount of money deposited into the Account. The funds are distributed annually. Cal/EPA solicits applications for the discretionary grants once a year from September 1st to 30th. For more information see our website: calepa.ca.gov/Enforcement/Grants/2005/14300.htm.

2003 Distribution

A total of \$140,605.44 was distributed in 2003, as follows:

- \$35,151.36 to the Environmental Circuit Prosecutor Project
- \$35,151.36 to the California District Attorneys Association to provide enforcement training
- \$35,151.36 to the Peace Officers Standards Training Commission for the production of an environmental crimes awareness training video for peace officers.

- \$35,151.36 was distributed as a discretionary grant by Cal/EPA to the one application that was received, a request from the Environmental Circuit Prosecutor Project for additional funding.

Reports on the projects undertaken with these funds are available from Cal/EPA.

2004 Distribution

For 2004, \$837,965.14 was in the account and was distributed as follows:

- \$209,491.28 to the Environmental Circuit Prosecutor Project
- \$209,491.28 to the California District Attorneys Association
- \$100,000 to the Peace Officers Standards Training Commission
- Remainder \$318,982.56 to Cal/EPA to be awarded as discretionary grants for enforcement and enforcement training

Applications received and actions taken on the request are described below.

The Air Resources Board requested \$30,000 for the Cal/EPA Environmental Cross Media Enforcement Symposium. This was denied as an alternate source of funding became available (SEP money from the settlement in People vs. 7-11, filed in San Joaquin County Court).

The Air Resources Board requested for \$10,000 for surveillance equipment. This grant request was approved.

The California Hazardous Materials Investigators Association requested funds to support their annual conference and training. This request was denied as an alternate source of funding became available (SEP money from the above mentioned 7-11 settlement).

The California District Attorneys Association requested funds to support the Circuit Prosecutor Project. These funds were needed as the Cal/EPA contract has been reduced from \$400,000 to \$300,000 and the Department of Fish and Game ceased providing any funding to the project. This request was approved for \$285,982.58.

The Riverside County Illegal Dumping Task force requested funds for enforcement training and surveillance equipment to support its activities. This request was approved in the amount of for \$13,000.

The District Attorney and City Attorney of San Diego requested \$10,000 for litigation support for enforcement cases involving underground storage tanks. This request was approved.

Peralta Jr. College requested funds for training for heavy duty diesel mechanics. This request was denied as it did not appear to fit within the requirements of the statutes and regulations that control the use of these funds.